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By-laws, 1903

Society of the Cincinnati

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North Carolina Society



of the Cincinnati

By-laws

1903

RULE OF 1854.

“Resolved, That each State Society shall have the full right and power to regulate the admission of members, both as to qualifications of the members and the terms of admission; provided, that admission be confined to the male descendants of original members, or of those who are now members, (including collateral branches, as contemplated by the original constitution); or to the male descendants of such officers of the army or navy as may have been entitled to admission, but who failed to avail themselves thereof within the time limited by the constitution; or to the male descendants of such officers of the army or navy of the revolution as may have resigned with honor, or left the service with reputation; or to the male collateral relative of any officer who died in service without leaving issue.”

BY-LAWS

FEBRUARY 23, 1903

ARTICLE I.

OFFICERS, COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS.

Officers.

SECTION 1. The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer, and a Chaplain, who shall constitute a Standing Committee.

Election and Term of Officers.

SECTION 2. The Officers shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting, on the Twenty Second of February of each year, and shall hold office for the term of one year, or until their successors are chosen.

Duties of Officers.

SECTION 3. The President, or in his absence, the Vice-President, shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Standing Committee.

The Secretary shall keep and have charge of all the records and papers of the Society and of the Standing Committee. He shall call all meetings of the Society and Standing Committee, by mailing notice to each member within a reasonable time of the meetings of the same. The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in his duties and act in his absence or disability.

The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds and property of the Society with power, on the approval of the Standing Committee, to invest and reinvest the funds and to disburse the income thereof. He shall give bond to the President for the faithful discharge of his trust, which bond must be approved by the Standing Committee. At the annual meeting of the Society the President shall appoint two members to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, and to verify the securities in his charge. The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer in his duties and act in his absence or disability.

The Chaplain shall be an ordained clergyman of a Christian church and shall perform all religious functions connected with the Society.

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Duties of Standing Committee.

SECTION 4. The Standing Committee shall have charge of the welfare and general concerns of the Society, as well as all other matters committed to them by it. They shall hold meetings at such times as they shall determine, but at least once a year. They shall consider all applications for admission to the Society and recommend such applicants as they deem to be entitled and worthy. They shall keep a record of their proceedings, which shall be open to inspection by any member of the Society, and shall be read to the Society at its next following meeting. The assent of a majority of the members of the Standing Committee shall be necessary for any of its acts. Special meetings of the Committee may be called at any time by the direction of the President, and shall be called upon the request, in writing, of three members thereof.

Meetings.

SECTION 5. The annual meeting of the Society shall be on the Twenty Second of February of each year, to be held in such place in the State as may be determined upon by the Standing Committee. Special meetings may be called at any time, by direction of the President, and such meetings shall be called upon the request, in writing, of ten members, stating the object of the meeting.

Quorum.

SECTION 6. Seven members shall constitute a quorum of the Society.

Order of Business.

SECTION 7. The order of business shall be as follows :

- (1) Prayer, Roll Call and Reading of the Original Institution of the Order.
- (2) Reading of the Minutes of the last meetings of the Society and of the Standing Committee.
- (3) Election of Members.
- (4) Report of Officers and Committees.
- (5) Unfinished and New Business.
- (6) Nomination and Election of Officers and Delegates to the General Society.
- (7) Adjournment.

ARTICLE II.
MEMBERSHIP.

Applications.

SECTION 1. All applications for admission shall be in writing to the Standing Committee, who shall consider and report upon the same to the Society at its annual meeting.

Eligibility.

SECTION 2. No person shall be eligible to membership who shall be under twenty-one years of age. Every applicant to be eligible must have the qualifications stated in the Institution of the Society, or under the Rule of 1854 adopted by the General Society. Among descendants of original members or others who shall be eligible, this Society reserves the absolute right to choose such one as seems to it best fitted to promote the ends of the Society, but it will ordinarily be guided by the following principles :

I. The succession shall descend in the eldest male line so long as it continues unbroken.

II. If the eldest male line fails, the next male line shall be taken.

III. In case of the failure of the male line, the line which descended the greatest number of generations from the original member before a failure of males, shall ordinarily be taken.

IV. The claims of descendants through female lines shall be determined by the same rules of primogeniture as in case of claims through the male line, so far as applicable.

V. A waiver by any person shall be regarded only as the renunciation of a claim, not as the transfer of a right.

VI. No waiver, express or implied, shall be considered as affecting the rights of a minor son,—except for special reasons satisfactory to the Society.

VII. Where for any reason the Society deviates from the strict rules in electing a member, it shall not be considered as changing permanently the order of succession, but upon the death of such member, the old order may be restored.

VIII. As the Society for the support of the principles to which it is pledged may justly require its membership to be kept full, it may upon satisfactory evidence that an eligible person has had knowledge of his claim and neglected to apply within a reasonable time,—treat it as a waiver of the claim. If a vacancy has existed for many years, the Society may admit any descendant of the original member at its discretion.

Election to Membership.

SECTION 3. Applicants whose cases have been favorably reported

upon by the Standing Committee, may be elected to membership in the Society at its annual meeting by ballot.

Entrance Fees.

SECTION 4. The amount to be contributed to the permanent fund of the Society, before an applicant can become a member thereof, shall be as follows:

For a membership endowed in perpetuity by an applicant whose propositus was an original member of the Society or who "Died in the Service," One Hundred and Fifty Dollars; by an applicant whose propositus comes under the "Rule of 1854," Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars.

For a life membership by an applicant whose propositus was an original member of the Society or who "Died in the Service," Fifty Dollars; by an applicant whose propositus comes under the "Rule of 1854," One Hundred Dollars.

The payments, however, on life membership, are to be credited toward an endowed membership, the cost of which is to be debited against the membership.

All life and endowed membership fees, as well as donations, which shall be paid the Society, shall remain forever to the use of the Society as a permanent fund, the income only of which may be expended.

Honorary Members.

SECTION 5. The admission of honorary members, for life only, shall be confined to those who shall be eminent lineal descendants or representatives of those who were distinguished by high military or civil virtues and services in the Revolutionary War. An honorary member has no title to any portion of the funds of the Society, and no one shall be admitted to honorary membership, except upon the recommendation of the Standing Committee.

Declaration.

SECTION 6. Members of this Society shall subscribe to the following declaration :

NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

I,.....do declare that I am the.....of.....and having had the honor to be admitted to membership in the North Carolina Society of the Cincinnati, I do hereby most solemnly promise and engage that I will be guided and governed by the rules of said Society, which may have been or may hereafter be established, agreeably to the Institution as signed by the original members.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name and pledge my sacred honor.

Done at.....on the.....day of.....19

Seal.

SECTION 7. The Society shall have a Seal, two inches in diameter, and which shall comprise thereon the insignia of the Order, viz., An eagle displayed, bearing on its breast the obverse of the medal of the Society with the motto, *Omnia reliquit servare rempublicam*, surrounding the same; above, thirteen stars in a semicircle; beneath, on a scroll, the motto of the Order, *Esto perpetua*; around the whole, the legend, North Carolina Society of the Cincinnati, Instituted MDCCLXXXIII. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the Seal.

Diploma.

SECTION 8. Every member, upon his admission to the Society, shall be entitled to receive a diploma to be signed by the President of the Society and countersigned by the Secretary, for which diploma he shall pay the Treasurer the sum of Five Dollars. The fee thus paid, shall be for the use of the Society and be considered a part of the revenue for the current year. The form of the diploma shall be as follows:

Be it Known that.....
is a (or an Honorary) Member of the Society of the CINCINNATI, instituted by the officers of the American Army at the Period of its Dissolution, as well to commemorate the great event which gave Independence to NORTH AMERICA, as for the laudable purpose of inculcating the duty of laying down in Peace, Arms assumed for public Defence, and of uniting in Acts of brotherly Affection and Bonds of perpetual Friendship, the Members constituting the same.

In Testimony whereof, I, the President of the North Carolina Society of the Cincinnati, have hereunto set my Hand and the Seal of the said Society, at Raleigh, in the State of North Carolina, this Twenty Second Day of February in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and.....and in the One Hundred and.....
Year of the Independence of the United States.

By order,

SEAL.

.....
Secretary.

.....
President.

Insignia.

SECTION 9. The Order of the Society shall be worn at all the meetings by the members, who may obtain it through the Treasurer.

Amendments.

SECTION 10. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any meeting of the Society, the call for which shall state the substance of the alterations or amendments proposed.

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